

Claim 13. Please cancel.

Please add the following:

Claim 14. The adhesive tape of claim 4, wherein said adhesive composition is chemically crosslinked with a crosslinker selected from the group consisting of aluminum chelate, titanium chelate, other metal complexes, isocyanates and epoxys.

Claim 15. The adhesive tape of claim 11, wherein said range is 20-50%.

Claim 16. The adhesive tape of claim 1, wherein said adhesive composition is free of tackifier resin.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed to eliminate multiple dependency, and to conform the claims to conventional format.

For the record, Applicants emphasize that although the claims were amended, and, therefore, might be argued to have been amended for a reason substantially related to patentability, a fair reading of the amended claims will reveal that the departures from the previous claims were for clarification purposes only, and that Applicants did not narrow the claims in any material respect. Therefore, Applicants submit that the amended claims are entitled to the full range of equivalents.

Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

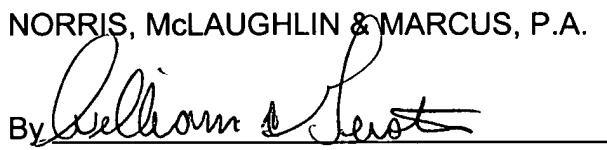
If any extension of time for this amendment is required, applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefore. Please charge the required petition fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully submitted,

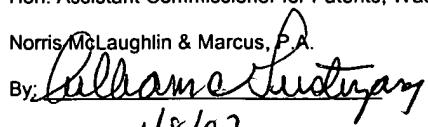
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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, Label No. EV 015940821US to: BOX PATENT APPLICATION, The Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 8, 2002.

Norris, McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A.

By: 
Date: 1/8/02

MARKED-UP COPIES OF AMENDED CLAIMS,
SHOWING CHANGES RELATIVE TO PREVIOUS VERSION

Claim 2 (amended). The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the natural rubber latex [may be either] is either of the low ammonia or of the high ammonia type.

Claim 3 (amended). The tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein said butadiene-acrylate is a mixture[s] of different butadiene-acrylate types and said natural rubber latex is a mixture of different natural rubber latex types [may also be used].

Claim 4 (amended). The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adhesive composition is chemically [crosslinkable by means of added customary crosslinkers (e.g., aluminum chelate or titanium chelate, further metal complexes, isocyanates, epoxy, etc.)] crosslinked.

Claim 5 (amended). The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the adhesive composition is physically [crosslinkable, in particular by means, for example, of] crosslinked by EBC.

Claim 6 (amended). The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein [the] its aging stability [may be] is improved by [using] the addition of aging inhibitors and UV stabilizers.

Claim 10 (amended). The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the butadiene-acrylate dispersion is [of the type of] a carboxylated butadiene-acrylate dispersion.

Claim 11 (amended). The adhesive tape as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fraction of natural rubber latex is in the range 5-80%, [in particular 20-50%,] based on the total solids content.

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